

The Great Depression and World War II Mini Project Topics/Ideas

GROUP A

Directions: 1. Answer all of the Essential Questions listed under your topic in paragraph form. Answers should be typed or neatly handwritten. 2. Find images, quotes, etc. about your topic and draw/print/upload. 3. Create a Discovery Education Board or Paper Slide Video.

1. Who was Winston Churchill?
 - a. Describe the life of Winston Churchill.
 - b. What country was he from? Early life?
 - c. What was his role during WWII?
 - d. Show famous quotes and speeches.
 - i. Create a Discovery Education Board or Paper Slide Video of "Winston Churchill and WWII"
 1. Be sure to include images, famous quotes, etc. in your presentation.
2. Who was President Franklin Delano Roosevelt (FDR)?
 - a. Describe the life of President FDR.
 - b. Early life?
 - c. What was his role during the Great Depression?
 - d. What was his role during WWII?
 - e. Why did he not finish his 3rd term in office? What disease did he suffer from?
 - i. FINAL PRODUCT - Create a Discovery Education Board or Paper Slide Video of "All About President FDR"
 1. Be sure to include images, famous quotes, etc. in your presentation.
3. Who is Benito Mussolini?
 - a. Describe the life Benito Mussolini.
 - b. Early life?
 - c. What was his role during WWII?
 - d. FINAL PRODUCT - Create a Discovery Education Board or Paper Slide Video of "Benito Mussolini and WWII"
 - i. Be sure to include images, famous quotes, etc. in your presentation.
4. Who is Adolf Hitler?
 - a. Describe the life of Adolf Hitler..
 - b. Early life?
 - c. What was his role during the Great Depression?
 - d. What was his role during WWII?
 - e. What happened to Hitler as a result of Germany losing the war?
 - i. FINAL PRODUCT - Create a Discovery Education Board or Paper Slide Video of "All About Adolf Hitler"
 1. Be sure to include images, famous quotes, etc. in your presentation.

5. Who was General Douglas MacArthur?
 - a. Describe the life of General Douglas MacArthur..
 - b. Early life?
 - c. What was his role during WWII?
 - i. FINAL PRODUCT - Create a Discovery Education Board or Paper Slide Video of "All About President FDR"
 1. Be sure to include images, famous quotes, etc. in your presentation.
6. Who was General (and President) Dwight D. Eisenhower?
 - a. What was his role in WWII? What was his official job title?
 - b. Describe his role in planning D-Day?
 - c. Why was he such an admired and respected General by the soldiers?
 - d. Provide famous quotes of the General.
 - e. What was his role after WWII? What actions is he famous for (Ex. creating the Interstate System)
 - i. FINAL PRODUCT - Create a Discovery Education Board or Paper Slide Video of "All About General/President Dwight D. Eisenhower"
 1. Be sure to include images, famous quotes, etc. in your presentation.
7. What was the 'Day That Will Live in Infamy?'
 - a. What is Pearl Harbor?
 - b. Why is it an important military strategic location?
 - c. Why did Japan attack Pearl Harbor?
 - d. How did the attack happen?
 - e. How did Japan use new technology to strike the US ships?
 - f. Create a Map of the Attack on Pearl Harbor.
 - i. FINAL PRODUCT - Create either a Paper Slide Video or a Discovery Education Board including all Essential Questions, primary source images/video clips, and the map of the attack.
8. The role of the planes in WW2.
 - a. How did the plane evolve from WWI to WWII?
 - b. What types of planes were used in WWII? How were they different?
 - c. What were the different jobs and roles of these planes?
 - d. Describe typical attacks in WWII using planes.
 - e. Describe how radar was used in WWII against aerial attacks.
 - i. FINAL PRODUCT - (Create a Discovery Education Board OR a Paper Slide Video)
 - ii.
9. Hibakusha (Japanese Atomic Bomb Survivors)
 - a. Who were the Hibakusha?
 - b. What physical, mental, and emotional effects were left on the Japanese Atomic Bomb survivors?
 - c. How did the US government try to help these survivors?
 - d. What nuclear arms policies were developed after the dropping of the atomic bomb to ensure this catastrophe would never happen again?
 - e. Describe, depict the War Memorials at Hiroshima and Nagasaki.
 - i. FINAL PRODUCT - Create a Discovery Education Board or a Paper Slide Video

GROUP B

Directions: 1. Answer all of the Essential Questions listed under your topic in paragraph form. Answers should be typed or neatly handwritten. 2. Find images, quotes, etc. about your topic and draw/print/upload. 3. Create a your Final Product using the Rubric provided.

1. Treaty of Versailles Analysis

- a. How did the Treaty of Versailles set the conditions for the rise of fascism in Italy and Germany?
- b. Why did President Wilson disapprove of the Treaty?
 - i. What was his proposal? What peace terms did it outline?
- c. How did the 14 Points differ from the Treaty of Versailles?
- d. Why did the US' reject President Wilson's plan?
 - i. FINAL PRODUCT - Create a flip video summarizing the Treaty of Versailles and comparing it to President Woodrow Wilson's '14 Points.'

2. Analyze Propaganda Strategies during WWII, how were they used to promote support for the war?

- a. In what types of media were they used?
- b. Why is propaganda successful in shaping public opinion?
- c. Provide examples of the 5 types of propaganda used in WWII.
- d. Describe the US' propaganda strategies at home and in Europe.
- e. Describe Germany's propaganda strategies at home and throughout Europe during the War.
 - i. FINAL PRODUCT - Create a narrated slideshow (Use Vimeo, Slides, Video Editor, Paper Slide Video) answering all Essential Questions, importing/displaying actual Propaganda strategies used in WWII (different types and styles), and creating (and including in presentation) 2 original Propaganda Tactics.

3. Who were the SS, Schutzstaffel, during WWII?

- a. What was the original purposes?
- b. What roles did they evolve to, aka what jobs did they perform during the war?
- c. Why were they considered so evil and tried for war crimes after the war?
- d. What were the 'Nuremberg Trials' and be sure to list specific Nazis tried for war crimes.
- e. Find a primary source letter of a victim of the SS writing about the horrors/cruelty of the SS.
- f. Create/Draw the SS Insignia and explain its meaning.
 - i. FINAL PRODUCT - Create a Discovery Education Board, write a Research Paper, or create a Paper Slide Video. Be sure to include all Essential Questions, primary source images, clips, quotes.
 - ii.

4. Women's role in the WWII - Analyze the role of women in World War II

- a. What were their jobs?
 - i. At home? On the Warfront?
- b. Who was 'Rosie the Riveter'? - show how Propaganda was used to persuade women to work new jobs in support of the war effort
- c. Medical Personnel - Describe the role of a woman during WWII as a Medical Personnel.
- d. How did the role of women change after WWII due to 'Rosie the Riveter'?
- e. How did the changing role of women lead to a national push for Women's Rights after WWII?
 - i. FINAL PRODUCT - Create a Paper Slide Video or a Discovery Education Board. Be sure to include all Essential Questions, primary source images, clips, quotes.

5. French Resistance -

- a. How did France lose to Germany and become occupied during the War?
- b. Since France was invaded and occupied by Germany throughout the duration of WWII, what methods and tactics did the French employ to resist Nazi occupation?
- c. Why were French citizens not happy with the French government in power once Germany invaded and occupied France?
- d. How did the Resistance support the war?
- e. What was Charles de Gaulle's role in leading the 'Free French' during WWII?
 - i. FINAL PRODUCT - Create (CHOICE) either a Paper Slide Video, Written Report/Essay, or a Discovery Education Board. Be sure to include all Essential Questions, primary source images, clips, quotes, etc.

6. Role of United States Navy during WWII.

- a. What role did the US Navy play in WWII?
- b. What role did the US Navy play in D-Day?
- c. Why was the Pacific Theater a critical area of need for the US Navy?
- d. Describe the 'Island Hopping' Campaign and its purpose.
 - i. FINAL PRODUCT - Create a timeline of the fight for supremacy in the Pacific. (a list and description of major battles in the US' Island Hopping campaign).

7. All about Blitzkrieg

- a. Why was blitzkrieg called "lightning attacks?"
- b. How did Hitler's Germany use new technology for these attacks?
- c. What did a blitzkrieg operation look like?
- d. Why did the Germans use 'blitzkrieg' as a battle strategy, what was its benefits?
 - i. FINAL PRODUCT - Create a map or interactive video detailing a timeline of a Blitzkrieg attack. Be sure to include

8. The Battle of the Bulge

- a. Describe the importance of this battle during WWII.
- b. Explain the significance of the battle to WWII.
- c. Create a detailed map/scaled drawing of the Battle.
- d. What is the battle remembered for today?
 - i. FINAL PRODUCT - (CHOICE) - Create a Paper Slide Video OR a Create online Timeline/map (use online timeline maker or Google Maps) chronicling the Battle of the Bulge. Be sure to include all Essential Questions, import/upload primary source images, and map of battle.

9. The Battle of Midway

- a. Describe the Battle of Midway. What were its causes? How did the USA know that they were about to be attacked?
- b. As a result of the Battle, Japan lost 4 Aircraft Carriers, why was that such a huge loss?
- c. Draw a detailed image of an aircraft carrier in WWII.
- d. What was the significance of the Battle of Midway to WWII?
- e. How did the result of the Battle lead to Allied victory/supremacy in the Pacific?
- f. FINAL PRODUCT - Create a Paper Slide Video OR a Discovery Education Board or an interactive Google Map of the Battle of Midway. Be sure to include all Essential Questions, import/upload primary source images, and the schematic of a WWII aircraft carrier. Bonus - Include a Map of the Battle.

10. Tank Warfare during WWII

- a. Why were tanks used in WWII?
- b. Who was General Rommel and what was his role in tank warfare during WWII?
- c. What types of tanks were used in WWII?
- d. How did tanks evolve as the war progressed?
- e. What was the overall significance to WWII?
- f. Build a model tank, or draw a detailed/accurate replica of a tank and how a map showing how tanks were used during WWII.

GROUP C

Directions: 1. Answer all of the Essential Questions listed under your topic in paragraph form. Answers should be typed or neatly handwritten. 2. Find images, quotes, etc. about your topic and draw/print/upload. 3. Create a your Final Product using the Rubric provided.

1. Japanese Expansion

- a. Focus on Japan's "East Asia for Asiatics" imperialistic policy by researching and answering these ?'s.
 - i. Why did Japan feel slighted by the Allied powers after WWI?
 - ii. Why did Japan invade Manchuria in 1931?
 - iii. Why did Japan leave the League of Nations?
 - iv. Why did Japan feel like they needed to control the rest of East Asia (what did they desire)?
 - v. What happened during the Sino-Japanese War? What were the outcomes/effects? (provide primary source images or video clips or Japanese tactics/mistreatment of Chinese, etc.)
 - vi. Why did Japan join Italy and Germany to create the '3-Power Pact'?
 - vii. Why did Japan attack Pearl Harbor and what was their ultimate goal?
 - viii. Create a map Japanese of "Sphere of Co-Prosperity"
 1. FINAL PRODUCT - Create a final product of your choice (must be technology based) that includes all Essential Questions, primary source images/clips, self-created map. Examples... Vimeo, Paper Slide Video, Video Editor, Newscast, Essay, etc.

2. Hitler's 'Final Solution' Analysis

- a. Analyze Hitler's plan to exterminate the Jews.
 - i. Why did he hate the Jews?
 - ii. Why did he want to exterminate them?
 - iii. How did Hitler use the Jews as fuel for his rise to power?
 - iv. What was his plan to exterminate them?
 - v. Provide examples of discriminatory and segregatory laws that Hitler ordered on Jews and the events that led up to the forced removal of Jews to the Concentration Camps.
 - vi. What was life like in a Concentration Camp?
 - vii. Draw a detailed map of Hitler's Concentration Camps throughout Germany and Europe.
 - viii. Create a scaled drawing of a concentration camp.
 1. FINAL PRODUCT - CHOICE - Create a final product of your choice that includes all Essential Questions, primary source images/clips, self-created map and drawing.

3. The significance of the Navajo Code Talkers

- a. How did the US employ Navaho Indians during WWII? (a movie called *Windtalkers* chronicles this)
- b. Describe how the Japanese were able to break the first US secret codes in WWII.
- c. List important individuals who created the idea to use the Navaho Indians.
- d. How was the Navaho language indecipherable to the enemy?
- e. Create mock military orders using the Navajo Code.
 - i. FINAL PRODUCT - Create a final product of your choice that includes all Essential Questions, primary source images/clips, self-created Navajo Code with translation.

4. The Great Depression

- a. Describe the Stock Market Crash of 1929.
- b. Why was President Hoover blamed for the Crash? What were 'Hoovervilles'?
- c. Why is this day called 'Black Tuesday'?
- d. What were the major reasons behind the Crash and subsequent bank failures?
- e. How did the Stock Market Crash effect the US' economy?
- f. Describe the daily living conditions of a majority of the American people during the Great Depression.
- g. How did the Great Depression shape and expand the US government's role during and after the Great Depression?
 - i. FINAL PRODUCT - Create a final product of your choice that includes all Essential Questions, primary source images/clips.

5. President Franklin Delano Roosevelt's 'First 100 Days.'

- a. Describe President FDR's First 100 Days.
- b. What government programs did he push through Congress to create jobs and try to reinvigorate the American economy?
- c. Why were some of his programs opposed and eventually ruled 'Unconstitutional'?
- d. What was FDR's "Alphabet Soup"?
- e. Explain the lasting significance of FDR's expansion of federal government in today's modern society.
 - i. FINAL PRODUCT - Create a final product of your choice that includes all Essential Questions, primary source images/clips.

6. Letters from the Frontline and Homefront.

- a. Research primary sources to find letters from soldiers and their families during the war.
- b. What did soldiers write home about?
- c. How were enlisted and officer letters different?
- d. What did families and loved ones write to the soldiers about?
- e. Create a journal of a WWII soldiers' daily life on the on the frontline. (3-4 entries).
- f. Use the journal to write a typical letter home to a loved one.
 - i. FINAL PRODUCT - Create a final product of your choice that includes all Essential Questions, primary source images/clips, self-created journal and letter.

7. Aiding the Jews.

- a. Describe the different methods of how Jews were aided during WWII by Jewish sympathizers.
- b. Who was Oskar Schindler and what was his role in aiding Jews during WWII?
- c. What happened to sympathizers who were caught aiding the Jews?
- d. Create a detailed and interactive map or timeline of how Jews were aided. What did a safehouse look like?
 - i. In the map, be sure to include...
 1. A scaled drawing of a safe house..
 2. A map of how Jews were transported to safety.
 - a. FINAL PRODUCT - Create a final product of your choice that includes all Essential Questions, primary source images/clips, self-created drawing and map.

8. The Bataan Death March

- a. What was the Battle of Bataan?
- b. What happened as a result of the end of the battle?
- c. Describe the Bataan Death March in detail.
- d. Create a Google Map detailing the Bataan Death March.
 - i. Include specific descriptions of the route, stops, styles of mistreatment.
 - ii. POW Camp - Describe the living conditions the soldiers while in captivity. (you could research/find memoirs or letters of those who survived Bataan Death March and imprisonment)
 - iii. How were special forces used to rescue the soldiers during their imprisonment as POWs in the Japanese Prisoner Camp?
 1. FINAL PRODUCT - Create a Google Map detailing the Bataan Death March.

9. D-Day

- a. What was D-Day?
- b. Describe the planning for the invasion in detail.
- c. Why was this called an 'amphibious operation'?
- d. What is the significance of this invasion to WWII?
- e. Describe Dwight D. Eisenhower's role in the planning of D-Day.
- f. What was the result of the invasion and its effects on the war itself?
 - i. FINAL PRODUCT - Create an interactive map (Google Map) or video using primary source images, created maps, of the assault on the beaches of Normandy.

10. The Manhattan Project and the Atomic Bomb

- a. Describe the development of the Atomic Bomb. (science behind the bomb)
- b. Who were the important people and their roles in developing the atomic bomb?
- c. Why did President Truman decide to drop the Atomic Bomb?
- d. What were the bomb's and planes' names, the cities the bombs were dropped on, the effects of the bomb's blast, and post-blast effects?
 - i. FINAL PRODUCT - Create an interactive timeline OR video OR paper slide video of the development and use of the atomic bomb. Be sure to include all Essential Questions, primary source images/charts/molecular structure, etc. in the final product.